



# Village of New Richmond

## Safety, Rules & Laws Committee



**Date:** June 13, 2022

**Location:** New Richmond Village Hall

**Time Start :** 17:30 hrs

**Time End:** 19:03 hrs

**Meeting Type:** ( X ) Regular ( ) Special

*Attendees:*

Glenn Ewing (Mayor)

Ryan M. Woodruff (Chairman)

Richard Feldkamp (Councilman)

Jon Tharpe (Councilman)

Greg Roberts (Administrator)

Bob Lindhorst (Planning/Zoning Administrator)

Tim Feldkamp (Fire/EMS Chief)

Mike Couch (Police Chief)

Jason Mallott (Police Sargent)

*Guests:*

*Members Absent:*

Lance Sizemore, Andrew Gerhard, Kurtis Boggs, Rob Painter, Mary Allen, Larry Prues, Dennis Dalton, Caroline Duffy

**Call Meeting To Order/Welcome**

**Department Data Update (Police, Fire/EMS)**

**POLICE**

Chief Couch gave a verbal and written report for calls for service for the police department. Chief mentioned that the NR Pride Event held over the weekend was a very safe event with no issues. Chairman Woodruff thanked the Chief and Sgt. For putting together a good Incident Action Plan for the event and thinking ahead on potential safety risks. Chief Couch gave an update on the departments Accreditation process and hoped to have more information for its completion within a week. Officers are continuing to work towards their annual EOPATA training requirements with a few officers nearing completion. Chief stated that new Patrol Officer Chris Warner is on a regular shift rotation serving the 6pm to 6am shift times.

**FIRE/EMS**

Chief Feldkamp gave a written and verbal report for calls of service. The Chief expressed that his first few days on the job were very interesting as the department handled a severe motor vehicle accident where a patient was air lifted and structure fire within our Front Street business district. The Chief noted that all runs went smooth and thanked his crew for their excellent responses. The Chief also commented on how nice the beautification projects around the fire house looked and wanted to thank the NR Garden Club members for all of their hard work.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. US 52 Pothole Issues: It was brought to the attention of a few members of council that there are serious hazards by way of pot holes on US 52 inside the New Richmond Village limits. A discussion took place as to who bears responsibility for the maintenance of the highway. Kurtis Boggs (Guest) made reference to ODOT's responsibilities. He felt the village was responsible for the maintenance of the road surface. Members of the committee and the audience discussed this for a few moments. Chairman Woodruff requested that in the interest of public safety we should fill the potholes with cold patch material and iron out the details of who is financially responsible. The recommendation was made to have the village road department coordinate the repairs with the Police or Fire/EMS Departments so they can assist in providing traffic safety services.
2. Additional Pedestrian Signage along Front Street was discussed to assist in the slowing of traffic. Administrator Roberts stated we could order these.
3. Chris Shack from Shack's Yaks reached out to Councilman Woodruff a few weeks ago regarding the non-motorized boat ramp (the former ferry landing). He requested that the village assist in keeping the right of way open for his customers and staff to utilize the ramp. He noted that adjoining businesses were using the space for parking. He requested some signage and to ask the Police Department to help in making sure the ramp is accessible. This item was previously discussed in open council but to date there has been no help in the request offered.
4. Chairman Woodruff again brought up the parking issues along Front Street as it pertains to illegally parked vehicles. He has received numerous complaints regarding this activity and requested that Police Department find a positive solution that will work for them, business interests and public safety.
5. NREVSD Transportation Director Luke Cox reached out several weeks ago in regards to one of the flashing SCHOOL ZONE 20MPH signs being partially obstructed by trees. He also mentioned the tree at Union Station that had previously been trimmed has grown back out again and may need attention again. These items were forwarded to Administrator Roberts to pass along to the road crew.
6. Councilman Tharpe brought up speeding issues along Bethel New Richmond Road. He stated the recent police enforcement had helped but has since gotten worse. It was also noted during this discussion that Bethel New Richmond Road is in need of line striping and possibly the placement adjustment of our village limit and speed limit signs for inbound traffic.
7. Caroline Duffy with 143 Engineers was envied by Administrator Roberts to give a presentation on the US 52 Complete Streets Project. The remainder of the meeting was yielded to her for discussion and all other items were tabled to the next meeting. It was noted at the conclusion of her presentation that she should come back to the council meeting to present again to give the public more opportunities to learn about the project. It was also requested to obtain a copy of the presentation that we could post to our village website for public viewing.

## **MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\*NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING TO TAKE PLACE ON July 11, 2022 AT 17:30 HRS**

Meeting Agenda & Minutes Submitted by: Ryan M. Woodruff

## June 14, 22 Personnel & Finance Committee Meeting Summary - J

This provides a summary of the June 13, 2022 Personnel & Finance Committee Meeting. The meeting started at 4:32 p.m. and ended at 5:18 p.m.

**Members Present:** Mayor Ewing, Council Member Larry Prues, Council Member Dennis Dalton, and Mary Allen, Council Member and Committee Chair. Police Chief, Mike Couch, Sergeant Jason Mallott, EMS/Fire Chief Tim Feldkamp, Village Administrator, Greg Roberts, Fiscal Officer, Diane Schafer.

**Absent:** None

**Guests:** Councilmen Ryan Woodruff, Richard Feldkamp, and Jon Tharpe, Clerk of Council Kelley Snider, and employees Bob Lindhorst, Leo Hurst, Ken Shearwood, Rob Painter, and Curtis Boggs

### **Discussion Topics:**

There were discussions in the normal four broad areas: Finance, Village Administration, Police Department, and the Fire & EMS Department and a high-level discussion about the candidates for the Clerk of Council position and the Fiscal Officer position.

### **Finance Committee – Lynn Baird, Exiting Fiscal Officer/Diane Schafer newly hired Fiscal Officer**

Diane reported we have \$83,000 remaining of the American Rescue Funds Account. Mary suggested she touch base with Lynn Baird to understand specifically what that fund can be used for.

Mary reviewed meeting minutes from 2021 with Lynn's comments and initially we were advised those funds could generally be used for:

- Response to public health emergency
- Essential employee premium
- Revenue loss
- Investments in water, sewer, or broadband

Diane stated that there would be no change in our group term life rates for this year

**\*The Committee has reviewed all checks and electronic payments for the month of May.**

**Motion: Motion to pay the bills.**

### **Village Administration – Greg Roberts**

Greg stated Caroline Duffy, consulting engineer on the US 52 Project would be presenting an overview of that project during the Safety, Laws and Rules Committee. Kudos to Village Administrator Greg Roberts for his work on this project up to this point.

### **Fire/EMS Department – Fire/EMS Chief Tim Feldkamp**

Chief Feldkamp stated there was a planned system update to the safety radios during next July. He said we had 10 portable ones at a cost of \$5,500 and 5 mobile ones at a cost of \$6,700. He mentioned it now, in case he'd need to put an extra \$12,000 of so in his budget. There has been discussion with the County Communications Director that said they're not sure they're aligned to this change because it will affect a significant number of radios and they're not sure of the benefit vs. the cost.

Chief Feldkamp had several personnel changes. He wants to reclassify Austin Tiller and Tim Nelson and he wants to accept the resignation of Wayne Tarvin.

**Motion:** Motion to reclassify Austin Tiller from paid per call to part time as a pay rate of \$14.10 per hour, starting June 17, 2022. He will serve a one-year probation and pay into Social Security.

**Motion:** Motion to reclassify Tim Nelson from volunteer to paid per call at \$20.00 per run, starting June 17, 2022. He will server a 6-month probation.

**Motion:** Motion to accept the resignation of Wayne Tarvin effective July 5, 2022. He is leaving in good standing.

### **Police Department – Police Chief Mike Couch**

Chief Couch stated in financial fairness, he'd like to give Jan Reynolds an increase because of the salaries we're paying others. Mary acknowledged others may be being paid more, but we need to look at the job descriptions for the positions and the number of years the other employees have been in those position. She said we'd need to review and discuss further.

Chief Couch then said the department continues to work on their accreditation. He also stated that the trial is coming up for the 2<sup>nd</sup> person in the Bob Farrell murder case.

### **Miscellaneous Discussion:**

- Councilman Dalton has been working on calculations for a water and sewer increase to cover the sewer fund's financial obligations. He shared his thoughts on the amounts of the increases for sewer, water, and trash. His ideas were discussed and he'll continue to refine and then present his ideas to the committee and then to full council.
- Councilman Dalton continues to work on funding improvements for the Police Department.
- Councilman Dalton asked about timing for demolition funds and Village Administrator Greg Roberts said about 6 weeks.
- There was a brief discussion about the \$300,000 State Capital Budget award the Village received for Liberty Landing. Kudos to Village Administrator, Greg Roberts, for his tenacity and work on this project and various grant requests.

**Comments from Guests:** There were no comments from the guests.

- Councilman Feldkamp mentioned we should consider outsourcing our water. Village Administrator, Greg Roberts, stated that our former Village Administrator, David Kennedy, had negotiated a backup agreement with both the County and Tate Monroe. We could easily have Tate Monroe provide our water if we wanted to.
- Ken Shearwood had a few brief comments about the I&I assessment and that it refers to the US EPA.

Submitted by Committee Chairwoman, Mary Allen, on June 14, 2022.

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Submitted by Committee Chairwoman, Mary Allen, on June 14, 2022.